

PLEA FOR GREATER NAVY BY JAPANESE ADMIRAL

Every Day Plan of Retention Is Delayed Means One More Day of Danger.

CRITICIZES PRESENT PLANS

Only Desire of Nation, He Says, Should Be for Adequate Defense, and Not Ambition to Compete With Any Other Power.

[Correspondence of Associated Press.]

TOKYO, January 13.—The most talked-of public utterance of the week in Japan is a plea for a greater navy, put forth by Admiral Tomasaburo Kato, Minister of the Marine, who commanded the Japanese ships that bombarded the German fortress at Tsingtao.

Among the most forceful assertions he makes in his bigger navy argument are the following: "Every day the plan or naval retention is delayed means one day more of danger to the empire."

"When the time comes that a nation is unable to meet the ordinary necessities to adequate naval defense that nation is bankrupt."

"To abandon the navy is tantamount to abandoning the state."

"Should emergency arise, the nation has no right to expect the present navy to meet and defeat any enemy of importance."

Pointing out that if the plan now under contemplation is completed Japan will have but four ships of the Dreadnought type, and four new battle cruisers of the Kongo class, the admiral believes that Germany will have forty-one battleships and twenty battle cruisers under her arranged program and emphasizes that the American navy is expanding at a corresponding rate. Russia, too, he said, was building up a great navy of three squadrons of twelve units each, compared with which the navy of Japan will be quite insignificant.

The minister added: "Japan can never afford to be satisfied with her present naval plans if she expects to maintain the position she has won. She will then be obliged to take her place beside China, Greece and Spain. Japan must replace her present obsolete units by units of modern efficiency."

What he wanted for his country, he said, was at least twelve battleships of the Fuso class. Even at that, he asserted, Japan's fleet would still be inferior to some others. Left as it was now, he believed that the navy would be worthless in case of war.

NAVAL PREPARATION IS CAUSE OF VICTORY

Looking backward to the war with Russia, the minister makes the point that although the victory at the great battle of Tsushima has been ascribed to the virtues of the Emperor and the skill of the hero, Admiral Togo, nothing could have saved the day if naval preparation had been inadequate.

"The very thought makes every true Japanese shudder," the admiral declared, "prepared as we were then, it was none the less necessary for the authorities after the war to take steps for further increasing the navy, but they have been hindered somewhat by financial limitations."

Meantime, the minister declared, the great powers have expanded their navies, causing a vast and significant change in the balance of naval power. The German, American and British were all in the first line of battle fleets, and although at the time of the Russo-Japanese War the Japanese navy was listed in the naval annual as one of the great fighting forces of the world, it is now no longer so described. This was because in naval retention Japan had not kept abreast of other great navies.

In conclusion, the minister contended that Japan had no ambition to compete with any other nation in naval expansion. Competition of naval armaments had been shown to be futile by the examples of England and Germany. Japan's only desire was adequate defense.

He said: "We should have a force equal to any that an enemy might send to these waters. Our present plans are certainly anything but extravagant or ambitious. The nation should not be endangered on account of mere financial considerations. The safety of the empire cannot be left to the fluctuations of the treasury. Every day the plan of naval retention is delayed means one day more of danger to the empire."

POLITICALLY INSPIRED REFFAINS TO BLAME

Politically inspired ruffians are believed by the police to be the perpetrators of the attempt to assassinate the Prime Minister, Count Shinozaki, on the night of January 12. The Premier was returning from a grand state banquet offered by the Emperor in honor of the Czar's cousin, the Grand Duke Michaelovitch, who came here to convey the coronation congratulations from the Russian court.

"As for the attack on myself, that is a mere nothing," said Count Okuma, "but what I deplore is the spirit of commercialism and envy which breeds such cowardly doings as assassination or assault. These acts are a remnant of the past and cannot be tolerated in this advanced stage of modern civilization. I am anxious that we should show a magnanimous attitude worthy of a great power during the stay of our distinguished guest, and that nothing happen to mar his pleasure."

In Japan there exists a class of men which can hardly be called criminal and which yet contributes nothing to society. They are known as "soshi," and usually take a leading part in political riots and other disturbances. They are popularly supposed to be hired by political groups when any public violence is conspired. The word "soshi," literally, means "useful samurai," and in former days signified a brave, courageous patriot. Gradually the term like the man degenerated to-day in popular parlance it means "strong-armed men." Although no arrests have been made, the police are inclined to lay the crime at the door of these individuals rather than to an anarchistic organization.

The belief entertained in some quarters that the attempt may have been made by German spies or Chinese revolutionaries is not generally held, and the popular idea is that the crime was the work of Japanese malcontents.

Count Okuma's escape, which was exceedingly narrow, was undoubtedly due to the extraordinary presence of mind of his chauffeur. The driver noticed a man suddenly emerge from a dark alley between a toy shop and a confectioner's. He was waving his arm as he ran toward the automobile, and the next moment a heavy missile struck the motor case of the car, glanced off to a window, which it broke, and then rolled to the street. By the time the missile had struck, the chauffeur had pulled his levers, and the limousine bolted forward with

the speed of an express locomotive. The assailant had hurled another bomb immediately after the first, but it struck the ground behind the car, exploding with a terrific detonation, and only a few of its fragments did some slight damage to the cover of the limousine. The street was deserted at the time, but the noise of the explosion caused residents to draw aside their Japanese shutters and peer out anxiously. One householder declares he saw a man in western clothes slink into a narrow passage to be swallowed up by the obscurity.

The limousine stopped shortly afterward, and the detective who accompanied Count Okuma picked up the unexploded bomb. It was taken to the Tokyo military arsenal, and here it was found to consist of a copper ket-

tle full of small pebbles, pieces of lead and a small quantity of explosive. There was a fuse of powder attached. Plainly the infernal machine was the creation of an inexperienced hand, yet had it exploded as intended its effects would undoubtedly have been disastrous.

Threatening letters were received by Count Okuma and by the household department just prior to the coronation, and threatening placards were posted in one of the parks of the city. Also, the public recalls newspaper reports that a small quantity of explosive had been previously stolen from one of the military depots. It is not improbable that the bombs used two days ago were manufactured from this explosive.

Count Okuma's frequent utterances

keep him in the eye of the public as the most prominent Japanese of today, next to the Emperor. He was severely attacked by the opposition groups when he withdrew his resignation as premier last year at the request of the Emperor. Political opponents declared his act to be against the constitution, and the discussion which took place at that time may have awakened a feeling which has only been smoldering and which found expression in the recent attempt to slay the premier.

Countess Okuma was as unmoved by the incident as her premier-husband. She told an interviewer that she was not surprised, for she always felt that her husband's life was exposed to danger—a danger, which, she said, she was always ready to share with him.



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A Sport Costume

That's "Different"

Smart women have indicated a desire for something distinctive in a garment of this character, and we're sure that this one—which is neither "frock" nor "suit," but which may be arranged at will to effect either—will prove to be the very costume to captivate their fancy.

A SPORT COSTUME OF UNUSUAL PRETTINESS! Note the four large pearl buttons effecting the "closed coat." Note also the turn back cuffs of self material that finish the sleeves, and the collar that's fashioned round, in "sailor style," in the back. And the very full skirt, trimmed with the two pockets.

What's it made of? Why, CREPE DE CHINE, of course; and the new shades of rose, pearl gray, cornstalk and white lend to it a certain smartness that scarcely can be described in word or picture.

\$27.50 is the price, but you must COME AND SEE IT!

Special Lot of Silk Frocks, \$19.75

Taffeta, crepe de chine, satin and silk Net Creations (samples), of which there is quite a variety; mostly one frock of a kind.

All the new Spring colors and every style is right-up-to-the-minute; all sizes, 34 to 42.

The value is EXCEPTIONAL!

Golfing Skirts

Again they come—another lot—every bit as pretty as the ones that have been selling so fast at

Five Dollars

A full cut, plain model that fastens down the front with pearl buttons. We show it in all the new Spring shades; also in all sizes, 23 to 30 waist, and 37 to 42 length.

A "Fouquet" Model Silk Suit

TAFFETA, trimmed with MARABOU—pronounced by a discriminating matron who has attended all of Richmond's most recent social functions as "the smartest suit I have seen this season."

Distinctive style features of this suit are the double cape collar effect, the jacket's back, which is laid in four plaits, and the front, which is finished with wide lapels. The marabou trimming extends around the neck and down the front of the jacket, and is also used to finish the cuffs. The gathered top skirt, which is another pretty feature, hangs full and plain. Price \$47.50.

Second Floor.

Advance Styles of New Spring Hats

PARIS INSPIRED models—positively the Hats of the hour, and FOR SPRING!

A Special Monday Sale at \$5, \$7.50, \$10

Which means some very EXCEPTIONAL VALUES—that is the story!

Second Floor.



An "Andrea" Model

PARALYSIS Conquered at Last! Write for Proof. By Dr. Chase's Special Blood and Nerve Tablets. Dr. Chase, 22 N. Tenth Street, Philadelphia, Pa.



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Featuring

New Spring Silks

SPRING FASHIONS are clearly foreshadowed in the charming silks now on our counters. They represent absolutely THE NEWEST and most up-to-date weaves in the most fashionable colorings of the season.

Of all the new silks shown this season

Chiffon Taffetas

undoubtedly lead in popularity. They are shown in a variety of styles:

Glaze Chiffon Taffetas
Solid Colored Chiffon Taffetas
Striped Chiffon Taffetas
Checked Chiffon Taffetas
Plaid Chiffon Taffetas
Satin Striped Chiffon Taffetas

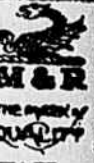
Brocaded Chiffon Taffetas
Satin Overplaid Chiffon Taffetas
Changeable Chiffon Taffetas

Prices range from 69c a yard all the way up to \$3.00 yard.

Notwithstanding SILKS have been advancing in price for the past six months, we are striving still to maintain our reputation for always giving the best values to be had in SILKS!

MILLER & RHOADS.

Silk Section, 1st Floor.



"The Shopping Center"

Miller & Rhoads

Special Cooking Demonstration of 'Wear-Ever' Aluminum Utensils

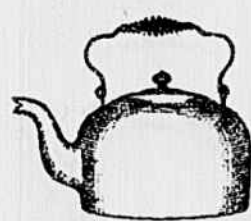
Now Going On

MRS. SHEELOR, from the "WEAR-EVER" aluminum headquarters, is now conducting a most successful Cooking Demonstration in our Basement. There is no charge for attendance, and every woman in Richmond is specially invited. This school, being adapted to the use of "Wear-Ever" Cooking Utensils, Mrs. Sheelor will take pleasure in teaching many economical and dainty recipes of delicacies easily prepared in ALUMINUM Cooking Utensils!

During this demonstration EXCEPTIONALLY LOW PRICES will prevail; all goods having been marked below the regular list prices. No other goods but the genuine "WEAR-EVER" Utensils will be offered. "Wear-Ever" Aluminum Utensils last a lifetime.



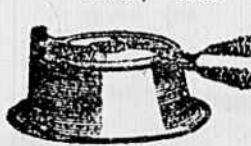
12-qt. Preserving Kettle, "Wear-Ever," \$2.40.



5-qt. Tea Kettle, "Wear-Ever," \$3.75.



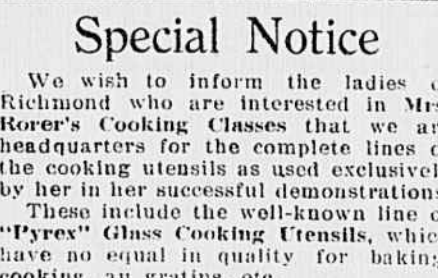
1-qt. Covered Berlin Saucepan, "Wear-Ever," 69c.



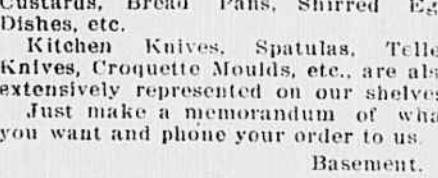
Gas Waffle Iron, requires no grease; no odor, no smoke, \$3.25.



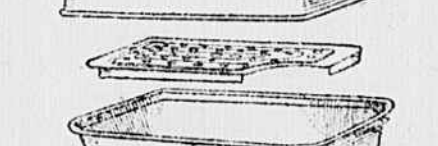
4-qt. Covered Roast Pot, "Wear-Ever," \$1.25.



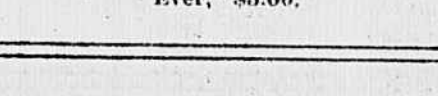
1-qt. Tea Pot, "Wear-Ever," \$1.80.



9-Ring Muffin Pan, "Wear-Ever," 89c.



2-qt. Rice Boiler, "Wear-Ever," \$2.00.



Large Size Double Roaster, "Wear-Ever," \$5.00.

